Capital Apple

The Official Journal of the

Wellington
Macintosh Society Inc.

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Meetings Update

ALL MEETINGS ARE HELD AT: (unless otherwise indicated)

Turnbull House, 11 Bowen Street, Wellington

When: Monday 30 July, 2007

Time: 7.10 pm till 9.30pm (doors open 6.50pm)

Wellington Meeting

The next Meeting of the Wellington Macintosh Society Inc. will be held on Monday 30 July 2007. This meeting will be held in the Ante Room on the Ground Level of Turnbull House, 11 Bowen Street, Wellington from 7.10pm. The first part of the meeting will be a questions and answers session and this will be followed by supper. The main presentation will be covering internet technologies such as RSS feeds, podcasts and streaming video and audio.

Kapiti Area Meeting

For those members living at or near the Paraparaumu area, our next Kapiti meeting will be held at our normal time on Monday 6 August 2007. It will be at the Rita King Cottage at St Marks Church in Rosetta Road, Raumati. The main topic will be much the same as for the Wellington meeting.

New Media Group

Check <http://nmg.welmac.org.nz/>

Cover Photo:

Apple's iPhone has created a lot of interest worldwide, however it is only available in the US at this stage. Europe will be next inline then Asia sometime in 2008 and hopefully that will include New Zealand.

President's Report

Hi folks. As noted last month, I've just moved flat, so I've been rather busy. Things are starting to get back to normal now, so I have time for WelMac activities again.

Mac Help Desk

Our third weekend Mac Help Desk meeting of the year is scheduled for 3 to 5 pm, Saturday 4th August (the weekend after our main meeting).

The help desk is aimed at sorting out problems and tutorial or assistance with a reasonably wide range of topics, assuming we can find someone who is available and can assist with what you want to talk about.

As with previous meetings, this is being held at a private residence, numbers are strictly limited and advance booking is essential. Attendance is free for WelMac members, and non-members can join at the help desk meeting.

If you want to attend the help desk meeting, please contact me to register your interest: e-mail or phone me, or tell me in person at the main meeting on Monday. I will be accepting registrations up to Wednesday 1st August.

When registering, please indicate what topics you would like to cover.

You are welcome to bring your own computer, and there are few spare ones available at the venue.

Photoshop Elements seminar

We are intending to run a special meeting looking at Photoshop Elements in the near future. This will cover introductory to mid level use of the software, and can also serve as an introduction to the full version of Photoshop (where they share common features).

Details have not yet been finalised, so stay tuned for date and venue. In the meantime, please send registrations of interest to graeme@welmac.org.nz.

MacBook Pro review

Sorry to rabbit on about this, but my new laptop has arrived (at last). I was complaining bitterly about the slow delivery at last month's meeting, and got home to find an e-mail from Apple saying it had shipped that day. It arrived the next day.

This was my first experience ordering from the online Apple Store and apart from slow delivery (probably due to a backlog of orders with a new model) it went very smoothly. At order time they quoted a delivery time of 4 to 6 business days and it actually took 9.

As expected, transferring my data over to the new computer was a painless process, by using Apple's "Migration Assistant". There is an option to run this as part of the initial setup, or you can run it manually at a later stage (it is in the Utilities

folder). It requires a Firewire connection to your old computer.

The only thing I'm missing (slightly) on the new computer is the ability to run Mac OS 9 applications, since you cannot run the "Classic" environment on a Mac with an Intel processor. I still have a PowerMac G4 on which I can run older software, but I won't be able to demonstrate Classic issues in our Q&A sessions at the main meeting (unless I borrow someone else's older laptop).

The experience of moving up five years in computing power (and nearly three times in memory and hard drive space) is rather startling. iPhoto is actually usable again.

I've done side by side comparisons of the new LED backlighting on my MacBook Pro compared to earlier models, and it is impressive how bright the screen can get. I normally run it several "notches" below maximum because it is too bright to look at with standard indoor lighting.

Otherwise, it may be a new processor, but it behaves just like a recent Mac. There is no need to be afraid of getting an Intel processor in a new Mac.

One issue is that most of my older plugins aren't working any more. This includes iTunes visualizers, screen savers, third party System Preferences panes, contextual menu items, and QuickTime components. I had to upgrade a few of them, and some aren't yet available as native Intel versions. For essential plugins, this can sometimes be resolved by forcing the host application to run in PowerPC mode (emulated via Rosetta) rather than Intel mode.

Windows on a Mac

I'm experimenting with running Windows on my MacBook Pro, mainly so I have a testbed for developing software, for occasional use of Windows-only software, and for bringing work home. I'm trying Parallels Desktop and VMware Fusion (which are similar "virtual machine" environments), but don't think I'll bother with Boot Camp (which allows booting directly into Windows but requires partitioning your hard drive, and restarting to switch modes).

VMware Fusion is due to be released in August and is offering a free public beta trial at present, with half price on the final product if you order it before it is released. Parallels Desktop also lets you try it for several days before having to pay for it. At full price, both products are about US$80.

Don't forget you need an appropriate installation and licence of Windows as well, and that is not cheap. If you are considering one of these options I suggest talking to someone who has been through the experience already.

That's all, folks!

If you wish to contact me, your best option is to E-Mail <president@welmac.org.nz>. I'm out quite a lot these days, but you can ring me at home (976 9755) and leave a message.

Choosing Mac-Compatible Skype Hardware

By Joe Kissell <joe@tidbits.com>

A recent thread on TidBITS Talk mentioned the wide array of hardware devices one can use with a Skype account, the fact that many of them have limited Mac compatibility, and the dearth of information available to help Mac users choose among them. Since I recently went through the exercise of researching (and eventually purchasing) such hardware myself, I wanted to share my own experiences. I admit that my criteria for selecting telephone hardware are atypical, but I suspect that many of my findings will be generally useful nonetheless.

My own switch to Skype as a primary means of telephone communication was prompted by my recent move to France. Before the move, my wife and I looked long and hard at our telephone needs, since we knew we'd be spending lots of time on the phone with people back in North America. I'd resisted Skype for a long time because my only experience with it involved being inconveniently tethered to my computer with a wired headset, and I felt that the process of making and receiving calls exclusively with Skype would be needlessly inconvenient. But when I looked at Skype's prices compared to other providers, and the range of available hardware options, I realized I had been operating under some misconceptions. I could have a fairly painless telephone experience with Skype if I put the pieces together in the right way.

That decision made, we signed up for two personal SkypeIn numbers (plus one for our business) at US$60 each per year, allowing us to receive phone calls from ordinary phones at U.S. phone numbers. We also got prepaid SkypeOut accounts, which let us make outgoing calls to ordinary phones (in every country we currently need to call) at 2.1 cents per minute. (Unfortunately, the terms of service for Skype Unlimited, which costs US$29.95 per year for unlimited calls to the United States and Canada, don't permit its use from outside North America.)

Sifting Through the Hardware Options -- That left hardware - what sort of apparatus we'd use for audio input and output and dialing. This was a challenging puzzle to solve. The range of options is immense, but every piece of hardware required one or more tradeoffs among price, quality, and convenience. One consideration that factored strongly into our thinking was overall com-

pactness. We'd decided to take with us only what could fit in our luggage in order to avoid the expense and hassle of shipping our possessions across the ocean in some other way, so eliminating bulk and weight (as well as any nonessential electrical items, which would require special adapters) was key.

Here are the options we considered and why we decided what we did:

Wi-Fi handsets.

Several different Skype-compatible Wi-Fi handsets exist (from SMC, Netgear, Belkin, Linksys, and Panasonic). They look and work pretty much like cell phones, except that they rely on a Wi-Fi network instead of a cellular network and give you access to your Skype account for both incoming and outgoing calls without requiring a computer at all. (Even though we brought four Macs with us to Paris, we thought it would be nice if they needn't be turned on, awake, and running Skype all the time just so we could receive phone calls.) Retail prices of these handsets range from about US$160 to US$360, though I've seen some discounted below US$100. We knew we'd have Wi-Fi and plenty of bandwidth in our French apartment, so any of these would seemingly have done the trick, giving us all the convenience of regular cordless phones. Some of them can also recharge via USB, eliminating the need to pack a separate AC adapter. But even US$100 (for each of us) was a bit steep, especially considering that all

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the currently available models have received decidedly mixed reviews. Users have complained about everything from audio quality to battery life, and we got the distinct sense that this whole product category was in a somewhat shaky first generation. This may prove to be an ideal option in a year or two, but for now, we felt the investment was too risky.

Cordless phones.

Another option would have been any of several cordless phones (from Philips, Netgear, and Linksys) with base stations that plug directly into an Ethernet connection. Like Wi-Fi phones, these eliminate the need for a computer - a big plus. The reviews I read suggested that their audio quality was higher and problems were fewer, while the price was comparable (ranging from about US$150 to US$180 at retail). All that was tempting, but it was still more than we wanted to pay - and there was still the problem of all those extra pieces of hardware (the base stations and the AC adapters).

Having ruled out the Wi-Fi handsets and cordless phones, we realized that we'd be stuck with devices that would require the use of a computer. However, we still had a wide range of options:

Headsets.

I already own a perfectly serviceable, Skype-compatible USB stereo headset with a microphone, the Plantronics .Audio 85. It has excellent sound quality for both input and output. But the cords drive me crazy. I don't mind so much when I'm sitting in front of my computer having a video chat, but I like to walk around while I'm talking on the phone. Besides, dragging out the headset and putting it on every time I had to make or receive a phone call - and using the on-screen interface to dial - wasn't my idea of convenience. Besides wired headset models from Plantronics, Logitech, and several lesser-known manufacturers, numerous wireless headsets exist (Bluetooth and otherwise). But the wireless models were a turn-off for me because of the need for an extra piece of apparatus (the charger) and the fact that none of the affordable models has sound quality adequate for speech recognition (something I'm playing with more these days). And even without the cord, I didn't feel like putting on a headset for every phone call.

USB Phone Adapter.

The Yealink USB-RJ11 Skype Adapter, which enables an ordinary corded telephone to be used for Skype calls, was another Mac-compatible device I considered. However, using this would have meant packing more hardware (the phones themselves and, if necessary, their base stations and AC adapters), so it wasn't ideal for us.

USB Speakerphones.

If we had been so inclined, we could have selected any of several USB speakerphones, including one that doubles as desktop stereo speakers and one styled like a conventional office telephone. Since we generally prefer to keep our conversations private, we opted to ignore these.

USB Handsets.

Available in both corded and cordless varieties, USB handsets have a keypad, microphone, and speaker (and usually an LCD display), just like most ordinary telephones. You can set them up so that they ring when a call comes in; you answer them (and dial outgoing calls) pretty much as you would with a conventional phone. They do require that your computer be turned on, awake, and running Skype, which may or may not be an inconvenience. But beyond that, this entire category of devices has one serious problem that the other categories don't: Mac compatibility is limited. Although we ultimately purchased corded USB handsets, that decision involved a number of interesting issues.

Simply performing the analog-to-digital and digital-to-analog conversion of sound to operate the microphone and speaker, respectively, is not problematic: plenty of USB audio devices work brilliantly on any modern Mac without any extra drivers or other software at all. It's the connection to Skype in particular that requires software mediation - software is needed to take the input from the buttons on the handset and send them to Skype, or to tell the handset to ring when a Skype call comes in, for example. And few USB handsets offer such Mac software.

Choosing a Handset

Skype's Web site lists three Mac-compatible USB handsets (all corded): The USRobotics USR9601 USB Internet Phone, the Simplyphone Classic, and IPEVO's Free-1, with software download links for each. Of these, only the USRobotics model was actually for sale on Skype's site, and at US$57.95, it seemed awfully expensive for what it was. So I decided to look elsewhere.

A Google search led me to VON-Phone.com, which features a page with Mac-compatible Skype devices of all sorts, along with instructions and software download links. We decided to get two different Yealink corded models, both fairly basic (but also fairly cheap): a USB-P1K for US$22.95 and a P8D for US$29.95. I would have liked something cordless, of course, but a handset cord bothers me much less than headset cords, and in any case, the cordless options involved greater expense and more physical components than I preferred.

When the two phones arrived, I immediately installed the software and tried both of them out. The USB-P1K worked; the P8D did not - it appeared not to recognize the Mac software at all (or vice-versa). I sent an email message to VON-Phone.com, and the owner replied that he had just tried out the phone on his own Mac and had the same problem. He offered to send me a different Yealink model, the P5D, and didn't even mention that it sold for US$10 more; I brought that up myself and offered to pay the difference. He sent the new phone the same day without waiting to get the old one back, and even included a postage-paid envelope for me to return the one that didn't work. Shortly thereafter, the P8D was removed from their list of Mac-compatible devices. That experience gave me warm fuzzy feelings about VON-Phone.com; it's exactly the way good customer service should work.

Hardware and Software Experiences

Both of these phones use software from Yealink called SkyMACMate to enable the phones to talk to Skype - meaning that both programs must be running in order for you to use the handsets. SkyMACMate version 1.0.0.12 is a functional but unimpressive little program. Its single window gives you volume controls for speaker and microphone - and nothing else. If you want it to run all the time, you have to add it to your Login Items list manually. I'd have preferred a background application that was completely invisible, with a preference pane to adjust the settings if necessary. (Note that you must also configure Skype to use the handsets for input, output, and ringing by choosing USB Audio Device from each of the three pop-up menus in the Audio pane of Skype's Preferences window.)

With the software installed and running, the experience of using the two phones is remarkably different, despite their superficial similarities. With the USB-P1K, the handset is essentially a remote control for Skype's on-screen interface. That is to say, pressing the arrow keys makes the Skype application scroll through its contact list, and certain other keys similarly "pass through" to the equivalent buttons in the Skype windows. Numbers you dial on the phone's keypad do show up on its LCD display rather than on the screen, but otherwise it's somewhat disorienting to use the handset when you also have to look at something on your computer. The P5D, on the other hand, functions much more like a regular phone. Its LCD display lists the names in my Skype contact list, and I can scroll through them and call any of them without ever having to look at my computer screen.

Both phones have respectable, though not stellar, sound quality. They're about what you might expect for under US$30: cheap plastic devices without a lot of attention to style, detail or extra features, but as corded phones go, we've found them entirely adequate.

I'm a bit less happy with the software situation. SkyMACMate is not a universal binary, though I'm unsure how much of a performance penalty that produces on my MacBook Pro. I've read numerous reports of problems with this software, but they appear to occur mainly with the use of the USB-RJ11 Skype Adapter mentioned earlier, rather than with handsets like we have. I have experienced a couple of random crashes, and there is some evidence to suggest that a memory leak is at fault, but as long as I quit and relaunch the program once a day or so, it seems to behave. Ordinarily I'd say that's more bother than I'd be willing to go through on behalf of poorly written software, but the other options available to me (such as replacing this with an entirely different brand) would also involve some bother, not to mention expense. I'll keep my fingers crossed for a software update.

The One and the Many

Having done still more research since making my purchase, I've become aware of some interesting facts about Mac-compatible USB Skype

handsets. Yealink, a smallish Chinese OEM, is the manufacturer of both the Simplyphone and USRobotics handset models, among numerous others, all of which use the same software - though Simplyphone re-brands theirs as CallMe. (The Yealink name, by the way, doesn't appear on their phones; some of them have the Radian brand and others, like the USB-P1K, are unbranded. The USRobotics USR9601 handset is the same as the P8D I had difficulties with, though it's unclear whether their branded version has any electronic differences that may enable it to work while the ones available from VON-Phone.com don't.)

Clearly, Mac software is not Yealink's core focus. But if you're unwilling to use the SkyMACMate software, you significantly reduce the number of Mac-compatible USB handsets from which you can choose. Other than Yealink-manufactured brands, I'm currently aware of several IPEVO models; the Keyspan Cordless Skype Phone; a few phones from Futiro; the Cyberphone W Mac (seemingly available only from the UK); and the Miglia Dialog+. I've tried none of these yet, so I can't comment on their performance or the robustness of their software.

Of course, I'm certainly in the minority in attributing such great importance to limiting the number, size, and weight of my gadgets. If you don't mind having an extra box or two, a USB phone adapter may be more to your liking, and if your budget is higher than ours was, you can bypass the Mac software issue entirely by buying one of the cordless Skype phones that plugs directly into an Ethernet connection.

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Random Bytes

Moon Exploration Widget Touches Down

John Martellaro of the MacObserver recently noted that Imaginova has released its Moon Exploration Widget. One can view the sky from anywhere on the Moon, for any date, and there are presets for the six Apollo mission sites and their excursion stations.

Apollo 11
Sun, 20 Jul 1969 13:00:00 GMT
Lat: .67 Long: 23.47
Alt: 4.0 Az: .0 FOV: 90.0
Moon Exploration Widget
Starry Night © Imaginova Corp.
ISS HP ART EVA3 LIVE Coverage: Expedition 15 spacewalk ... Visit

Each mission site shows a real photographic panorama and the sky as it would have appeared on that date. The user can hover and explore craters and other lunar features.

TMO notes that the sky is shown as it would have appeared to a suitable optical system, simulating a visual view, unaffected by brilliant sunlight or visors -- and not as astronaut cameras and film subsquently showed the lunar sky.

The Moon Exploration Widget is a Universal Binary, free and can be downloaded from Apple's Widget library <http://www.apple.com/downloads/dashboard/information/moonexplorationwidget.html>.

Home Made Spotlight Keywords

Spotlight has its own built-in list of keywords you can use when searching for files, so says by Jeff Gamet of the Mac Observer. But that list is designed to help you limit the types of documents it finds, not find documents that contain specific keywords. If Spotlight's keyword feature seems a bit limited for you, just come up with your own keyword scheme that works the way you want.

Creating a list of keywords that makes sense to you doesn't have to be a complex project. You might, for example, use "client projects" for documents and folders that relate to the businesses you work with, and another called "family events" for holidays and other get togethers with your family. The trick is to add your keywords to document and folder Spotlight Comments.

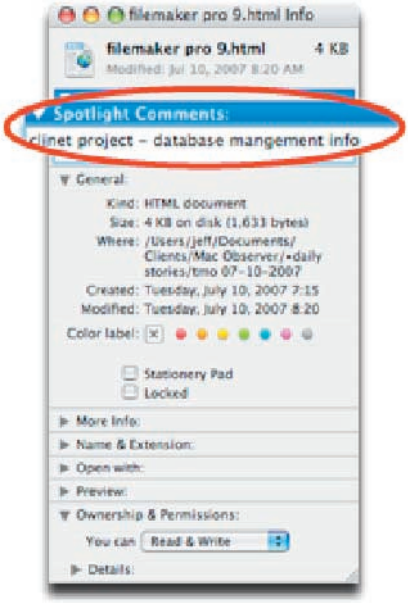
Here's how:

• Select a file or folder that you want to add your custom keywords to.

• From the Finder's menu bar, choose File > Get Info, or use the Command-I keyboard shortcut to open the item's Info window.

• Add your custom keywords to the Spotlight Comments field.

• Close the Info window.

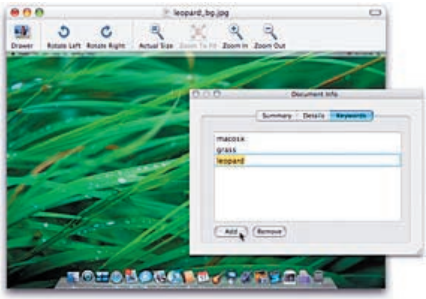


Now your keywords are attached to the file or folder, and are searchable with Spotlight. This works even if you are using a file format that Spotlight isn't otherwise compatible with -- meaning it can't look inside the document to scan its contents.

I use this trick when I want to locate documents and folders that all have some common theme, and I find it especially handy when I make a Smart Folder to track files for a specific client project. I just use the same keywords in every document that relates to the project, and my Smart Folder groups them for me, regardless of where they are hiding on my hard drive.

Giving Your Photos Keywords

Whilst we're on the subject of keywords, here's another one for you. If you're using Preview to sort your digital camera images, here's another helpful feature — the ability to add keywords to your photos. These keywords will even show up in Spotlight, so if you want to search your hard disk for images using keywords, you can.

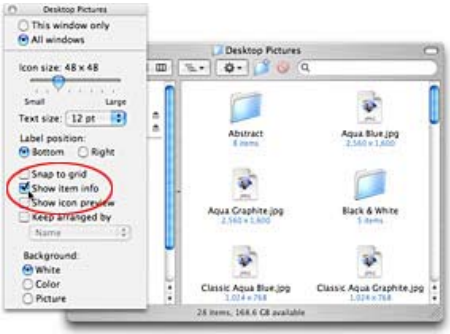


Here's how it works: When you have an image onscreen that you want to rate, just go under Preview's Tools menu and choose Get info. Click on the Keywords tab, then click the Add button to add a field. Enter your keyword in the highlighted field, click in the white space to finalize your keyword, and you're done.

See Your File's Hidden Info

Want more info on your files than the standard icon view provides (after all, it just gives you the file's name in icon view)? Then turn on Show Item info. This adds an extra line of information below many files and folders that can be very useful. For example, now not only do you get a folder's name, but just below the name (in unobtrusive light-blue,

9-point type), you'll see how many items are in that folder.



If the file is an image, the Item Info shows you how big it is. MP3 files show how long the song is, etc. To turn on Item Info for your current Finder window, press Command-J to bring up its View Options. Then turn on the checkbox for Show Item Info. If you want to show the item info for every window (globally), then choose the All Windows button at the top of the dialog.

Apple Silences Mac OS X 10.4.10 Popping Sounds

By Adam C. Engst

<ace@tidbits.com>

If you installed Mac OS X 10.4.10 before 02-Jul-07, you probably got version 1.0 of the update, which caused some Intel-based Macs with external speakers to experience "popping" sounds. PowerPC-based Macs weren't affected.

Apple has now released a variety of updates to address this annoying problem. If you haven't yet installed the Mac OS X 10.4.10 Update on an Intel-based Mac, you'll now see a fixed version 1.1 in Software Update; it's also available as a standalone download in both delta (72 MB) and combo (297 MB) forms. Those who have already installed Mac OS X 10.4.10 will instead see Audio Update 2007-001 in Software Update; it too is available as a 660K standalone download.

Apple Releases QuickTime 7.2, iTunes 7.3.1

By Jeff Carlson

<jeffc@tidbits.com>

Apple has updated QuickTime and iTunes, resolving issues with the H.264 video codec and fixing bugs. The primary changes in QuickTime 7.2 are fixes for several potential security vulnerabilities related to playback of malformed movie files and visiting maliciously crafted Web sites. However, more interesting is one other long-overdue change: movies can now be viewed full screen in QuickTime Player, a feature previously available only after purchasing a QuickTime Pro license. This update also adds two export formats: Movie to iPhone creates an .m4v video, while Movie to iPhone (Cellular) creates a smaller .3gp video. QuickTime 7.2 also rolls in unspecified updates to the H.264 codec and other bug fixes. It's available via Software Update or as stand-alone downloads for Mac (a 51.4 MB download) and Windows (a 19.3 MB download).

iTunes 7.3.1, according to Apple, "addresses a minor problem with iTunes 7.3 accessing the iTunes Library." As such, the new version rebuilds your library, so it's a good idea to make sure you have a recent

backup before you update. iTunes 7.3.1 is available for Mac (a 33.8 MB download) and Windows (a 47.6 MB download).

There has been discussion in TidBITS Talk of these updates causing problems with Microsoft Office 2004 and some other applications that rely on Mac OS X's Rosetta translation environment for PowerPC-based applications running on Intel-based Macs. From what we can tell based on a discussion at Apple's site and from MacFixIt reports, the problem relates to update_prebinding failing to run properly during the update process. Once update_prebinding has been run successfully by typing "sudo update_prebinding" in Terminal or by reapplying the Mac OS X 10.4.10 combo updater, all should be well unless Java SE 6.0 Release 1 Developer Preview 6 has also been installed; it must be uninstalled according to the directions at MacFixIt before running update_prebinding.

MacBook Pro EFI Firmware Update 1.3 Released

By Jeff Carlson

<jeffc@tidbits.com>

Apple has released MacBook Pro EFI Firmware Update 1.3, which "fixes a display issue on 2.2/2.4 GHz 15-inch MacBook Pro models," according to the minimal text on Apple's download page. MacFixIt speculates that this update fixes a color distortion problem introduced in the earlier MacBook Pro Software Update 1.0, which is required prior to applying the latest firmware update.

Apple also released Firmware Restoration CD 1.3. This utility (a 22.5 MB download) burns a CD that can be used to start up and repair an Intel-based Mac that won't work due to an interrupted or failed firmware update. The CD won't restore a machine's firmware if a firmware update was successfully applied. Needless to say, download the utility and burn a CD before applying the MacBook Pro EFI Firmware Update.

FileMaker Pro 9.0 Released

By Joe Kissell <joe@tidbits.com>

Filemaker Inc. has released FileMaker Pro 9.0, a major update to its line of database applications. Among numerous new features are a Quick Start screen, which gives less-experienced users an easy way to open or create databases; Conditional Formatting, which dynamically alters the formatting of fields based on user-defined rules; and the capability to connect to external SQL databases such as MySQL, Oracle SQL, and Microsoft SQL Server.

As usual, FileMaker Pro comes in several different editions. FileMaker Pro 9 retails for $299, with upgrades available for $179. FileMaker Pro 9 Advanced, which adds customization options and development features such as a script debugger, costs $499 new or $299 as an upgrade. For sharing databases with groups of users, you'll need one of the FileMaker Server products: FileMaker Server 9 ($999 or $599 to upgrade) if the clients are primarily other FileMaker Pro users or FileMaker Server 9 Advanced ($2,499 or $1,499 to upgrade) to support up to 100 simultaneous Web users using Instant Web Publishing. The

two Server editions include a new Admin Console to simplify management of any FileMaker Pro server, plus a PHP Site Assistant and API that enables PHP-driven Web sites to use information in a FileMaker Pro database.

A 30-day demo version of FileMaker Pro 9 is available; it's a 273 MB download. Also available is a trial version of FileMaker Server 9 Advanced, a 157 MB download.

MyFirstMac: Help For Mac Newbies

By Adam C. Engst

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Long-standing publications like TidBITS face the problem of an ever-evolving audience. After all, most of you have been using Macs (and reading TidBITS) for years, and we use that fact when writing to tailor our choice of articles and our assumptions of what you already know. But if you know someone who is just getting started and may not yet be up to reading TidBITS each week, we've run across a new site you can recommend. MyFirstMac <http://www.myfirstmac.com/>, created by long-time TidBITS subscriber Chris Kerins, offers crisp, concise articles that are perfectly targeted to the person who is considering a Mac, has just purchased one, or is still getting comfortable. Major sections include Before You Buy, Getting Started, Switching from Windows, Mastering the Mac, News, Your Stories, Q&A, and a series of short "How Do I...?" tutorials. You're unlikely to learn much you didn't already know, but MyFirstMac's content is ideal for your neighbor or elderly relative who's been asking about the Mac. And if you want to contribute, MyFirstMac is looking for pros to answer questions and write articles.

Why Men Die Early

For your general edification We encourage all males and females to check this out for a little bit of light relief:

Why-men-die-early.wmv <http://www.dcwake.com/component/option,com_forum/Itemid,27/page,viewtopic/p,42897/sid,85b359835434e83d16440d43b08ea456/>.

Recommended Web Sites

Time Magazine 2007 picks are examples of what's new and exciting about the Web right now. It honours sites with exceptional style and smarts, sites that offer new and improved ways to access and share content, generate our own and otherwise enrich the online (and offline) experience.

The list can be checked out at <http://www.time.com/time/specials/2007/>.

Wellington
WelMac Macintosh Society Inc.

PO Box 6642, Marion Square
Wellington, New Zealand

Meetings held 7.10 pm last Monday every month January – November
Turnbull House, 11 Bowen Street, Wellington

The Wellington Macintosh Society Incorporated is a non-profit organisation formed in April 1984 with the following objectives:

- To exchange and disseminate information among the members concerning the computer arts and sciences.
- To publish books, newsletters, magazines and periodicals for the benefit and education of the members and the general public.
- To conduct and sponsor seminars, lectures and courses relating to the computer arts and sciences.
- To provide technical assistance to members of the group.
- To seek privileges and discounts for members.

Subscriptions

Subscriptions are $30 per year from date of joining.

Website: http://www.welmac.org.nz
Email: enquiries@welmac.org.nz
(email addresses for committee members are available on the website)

Please contact the WelMac Information Officer for all WelMac enquiries, such as meeting information and other society activities. Membership enquiries should be directed to Membership Secretary.

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